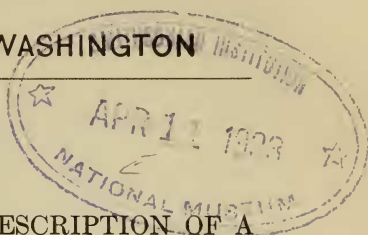


PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
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REMARKS ON COYOTES, WITH DESCRIPTION OF A  
NEW SUBSPECIES FROM SALVADOR.

BY E. W. NELSON.

Among the specimens of mammals collected during the biological survey of Salvador under the direction of Mr. Donald R. Dickey, are two coyotes, a male and a female. These specimens came from near the Cerro Mogote, two miles west of the Rio Goascoran, in the District of La Union, north latitude  $13^{\circ} 30'$ . With the exception of a specimen in the National Museum of Costa Rica, captured in Guanacaste, western Costa Rica, the specimens obtained by the Dickey party in Salvador are, so far as I am aware, the southernmost representatives of these small members of the wolf tribe ever collected.

Comparison of the Salvador coyote with its relatives from Mexico and also with others from various sections of the United States reveal that the Salvador animals not only represent a previously unknown subspecies but, surprisingly enough, represent one of the larger subspecies of the entire group of coyotes, almost equaling in size *Canis latrans lestes*.

Comparison of the skulls of the Salvador coyote with those from various parts of Mexico and the United States also indicate very conclusively, to my mind, that no salient differences exist in this group that warrant the recognition of more than a single species of coyote to which all belong, differing here and there under environmental changes as geographic subspecies. As a result of this conclusion the coyotes that have been described should stand as follows:

SUBSPECIES	TYPE LOCALITIES
<i>Canis latrans latrans</i> Say.....	Near Blair, Washington County, Nebraska.
<i>Canis latrans nebracensis</i> Merriam.....	Johnstown, Brown County, Nebraska.
<i>Canis latrans lestes</i> Merriam.....	Toyabe, near Cloverdale, Nye County, Nevada.

<i>Canis latrans ochropus</i> Eschscholtz.....	Typical near Tracy, San Joaquin County, California.
<i>Canis latrans clepticus</i> Elliot.....	Vallecitos, San Pedro Martir Mountains (8,000 feet), Lower California, Mexico.
<i>Canis latrans peninsulæ</i> Merriam.....	Santa Anita, Lower California, Mexico.
<i>Canis latrans mearnsi</i> Merriam.....	Quitobaquito, Pima County, Arizona.
<i>Canis latrans jamesi</i> Townsend.....	Tiburón Island, Sonora, Mexico.
<i>Canis latrans microdon</i> Merriam.....	Mier, Tamaulipas, Mexico.
<i>Canis latrans estor</i> Merriam.....	Noland's Ranch, San Juan River, San Juan County, Utah.
<i>Canis latrans texensis</i> Bailey.....	Nueces County, 45 miles south-west of Corpus Christi, Texas.
<i>Canis latrans impavidus</i> Allen.....	Rio de las Bocas, northwest Durango, Mexico.
<i>Canis latrans cagottis</i> Hamilton Smith.....	Rio Frio, west slope Mt. Iztacihuatl, Valley of Mexico, Mexico.
<i>Canis latrans vigilis</i> Merriam.....	Near Manzanillo, Colima, Mexico.
<i>Canis latrans goldmani</i> Merriam.....	San Vicente, Chiapas, Mexico.
<i>Canis latrans dickeyi</i> , subsp. nov.....	Near Cerro Mogote, 2 miles west of Rio Goascoran, La Union, Salvador.

I am indebted to Mrs. Donald R. Dickey for the privilege of using the specimens of Salvador coyotes in the Dickey collection. In recognition of the scientific work accomplished, and especially the completion of the fine biological survey of Salvador under the direction and at the expense of the late Donald R. Dickey, it gives me pleasure to name this well marked geographic subspecies in his honor.

***Canis latrans dickeyi*, subsp. nov.**

**SALVADOR COYOTE.**

*Type*.—No. 12260, ♂ adult, collection of Donald R. Dickey. Collected near Cerro Mogote, two miles west of Rio Goascoran, District of La Union, Salvador (north latitude 13° 30'), December 29, 1926, by G. D. Stirton.

*General characters*.—One of the larger of the coyotes, about equaling *Canis latrans lestes* of Nevada and distinctly larger than its nearest known relatives *Canis latrans goldmani* of interior Chiapas, *Canis latrans cagottis* of the southern end of the Mexican tableland, and *Canis latrans vigilis* of Colima, on the west coast of Mexico. Skull about the size of that of *lestes* but teeth smaller, with distinctly larger inner cusp on upper carnassial. Color in general darker, more dull rusty rufous, with tail much more heavily overlaid with black and with larger black tip; subterminal color of hairs on tail rusty rufous, giving a more rufous tinge than in any of the nearest relatives mentioned from Mexico.

*Colors of type*.—Top of nose and crown dull grizzled grayish, with a slight rusty tinge, shading into dull rusty rufous on sides of nose and into paler, more buffy grayish on sides of head back of and below eyes; a light dingy buffy area around eyes; nape and top of neck dull rusty rufous, washed with dusky, shading posteriorly into more dingy grayish on top of lower neck and top of shoulders; rest of back and sides of body dark rusty rufous washed with black on guard hairs, heaviest on anterior back and on rump passing into the heavily black washed tail with underlying dingy rusty buffy showing through; tail ending in strongly marked black tip; lower part of flanks dull buffy rufous, a paler shade of same extending down across front of abdominal area; front and sides of legs dark rusty rufous, closely similar to color of same parts in the other Mexican forms *goldmani*, *cagottis*, and *vigilis*; back of ears dull rusty rufous similar to nape but clearer; chin, throat, breast, posterior part of abdomen, and inguinal area dull whitish.

*Skull characters* (type).—Larger than in any of the three geographically nearest Mexican forms,—*goldmani*, *cagottis*, and *vigilis*; molariform teeth larger and more massive than in *goldmani* and *vigilis*, proportionately smaller than in *cagottis* and actually smaller than in *lestes* but with inner cusp of upper carnassial more strongly developed than in any of the subspecies named above; supraoccipital plane higher from upper border of foramen magnum to junction with sagittal-lambdoid crests than in any of the other subspecies named.

*Measurements of type*.—Total length, 1280 mm.; tail vertebrae, 380; hind foot, 250.

*Skull measurements* (of type).—Greatest length, 209 mm.; condylobasal length, 193; zygomatic breadth, 101.2; interorbital breadth, 32.2; length of upper canine-molariform tooth row, 87.7; outside crown length of upper carnassial, 19.8.

*Remarks*.—Coyotes are generally distributed on the Mexican tableland except in the Valley of Mexico and other southern parts of the highlands where they have become extinct or are very uncommon. On the Isthmus of Tehuantepec Major Goldman and the writer found no trace of them but they appeared again on the interior highlands adjacent to the boundary in Chiapas, Mexico, and at Chancol, Guatemala. Their next point of occurrence, so far as known, is in Salvador and the adjacent part of Honduras. Beyond this we have information of their presence in western Costa Rica including the Peninsula of Nicoya, which is probably the southern extreme of their range.